GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1649
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2003
WORLD BANK REPORT ON SOCIO ECONOMIC REFORMS
M.H. AMBAREESH

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank in its latest report has warned that India will not be able to reduce poverty and improve human development by 2015 if socio-economic reforms are not speeded up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps now the Government propose to take to speed up socio-economic reforms to achieve the goal by the year 2015 ?

Answer

Minister of State for Finance (SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL)

(a) & (b) Recent World Bank paper titled `Supporting Sound Policies with Adequate and Appropriate Financing: Implementing the Monterrey Consensus at the Country Level` mentions about India`s prospects of reducing povertyand improving human development by 2015. As per the paper, under current trends, India is likely to achieve Millennium Development Goals inincome and food poverty, and access to safe drinking water.

(c) & (d) The development objectives, goals and strategies are identified in the country`s successive Five Year Plans and sector specific policies, which consistently aim at speeding up socio-economic reforms.